REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1-11 and 15-20 have been amended to more particularly define the invention.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only to assure grammatical and idiomatic English and improved form under United States practice, and are not made to distinguish the invention over the prior art or narrow the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Coppola, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,216,357. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The claimed invention is directed to a terminal device and to a method of controlling a real-time clock of a terminal device. In accordance with exemplary embodiments of the invention, a terminal device includes a control section, a first real-time clock which is built in the control section; and a second real-time clock which is provided outside the control section. The control section is responsive to the terminal device being in a first operation mode to obtain real-time information from the first real-time clock and is further responsive to the terminal device being in a second operation mode to obtain real-time information from the second real-time clock.

In accordance with exemplary embodiments, the method includes judging whether the terminal device is in a first operation mode or a second operation mode, and, when the terminal device is in the first operation mode, activating the control section of the terminal

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device to obtain real-time information from a first real-time clock which is built in the control

section, but when the terminal device is in the second operation mode, activating the control

section to obtain real-time information from a second real-time clock which is provided

outside the control section.

Whether the terminal device is in the first operation mode or the second operation

mode, the control section obtains real-time information from a real-time clock.

Coppola, et al. discloses a real time solid state register having battery backup.

Coppola's device includes an internal clock 26 which measures elapsed time and applies its

measurement to a random access memory (RAM) 30. A program within read-only memory

(ROM) 28 controls microprocessor 24 to add the elapsed time transferred from internal clock

26 to a real time value stored in RAM 30 so as to maintain real time within RAM 30. All

these components are powered by power from a power line 38.

In the event of a power outage or line 38, the real time value within RAM 30 is

transferred to an external RAM 44, and external clock 46, which is powered by a battery 48,

measures elapsed time. When power is restored on power line 38, the real time value at the

time the outage occurred is transferred back from external RAM 44 to internal RAM 30, and

the elapsed time from external clock 46 is added to this old time value and the result is stored

in RAM 30 as a real time value and is then incremented by internal, elapsed time, clock 26.

See Coppola at column 6, lines 28-39.

Thus, neither internal clock 26 nor external clock 46 is a real time clock. Instead,

each measures only elapsed time. Microprocessor 24 does not obtain real time information

from either clock; it only obtains elapsed time. Microprocessor 24 must then update the time

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value within RAM 30 to determine real time.

Further, Coppola's microprocessor does not obtain information from external clock 46 when his system is in the power outage or second mode. Instead, that information is not transferred until the power has been restored and the first mode resumed. Thus, Coppola's system does not permit the user to read the real time when in the second or power outage mode.

Independent claim 1 recites that each of the first clock and the second clock is a real-time clock and further recites that the control section obtains real-time information from the first real-time clock when the terminal device is in the first operation mode and obtains real-time information from the second real-time clock when the terminal device is in the second operation mode.

Independent claim 11 recites that the method includes obtaining real-time information from a first real-time clock when the terminal device is in the first operation mode, and obtaining real-time information from a second real-time clock when the terminal device is in the second operation mode.

Coppola does not show or suggest such real-time clocks or obtaining such real-time information from real-time clocks. Coppola does not show or suggest the claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-20, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are allowable, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action would be appreciated.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance,

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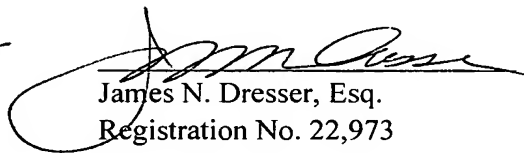Docket No. DP-850 US
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the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number

listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary for allowance in a telephonic or

personal interview.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR

§1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, including

extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account

No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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